

referred to the Fifth Committee, where it is currently being considered. Subject, therefore, to its findings, the Assembly considered and unanimously adopted, on November 11, the report of the *ad hoc* committee on the improvement of the methods of work of the General Assembly.

### First Committee

As its first item of business on October 15, the Committee took up for consideration a resolution introduced by Mexico and sponsored by the 17 members of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC) that noted with approval the recent statements of intention of the United States and the Soviet Union to refrain from orbiting weapons of mass destruction in outer space. The resolution welcomed these statements and called on all states to refrain from placing such weapons in outer space. Canada, as one of the co-sponsors, particularly welcomed this resolution, which embodied a long-standing Canadian proposal on the matter. The resolution was adopted by acclamation in committee and received unanimous approval in the General Assembly on October 17.

The Committee then took up the consideration of the first item of its agenda, the question of the urgent need for a suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests. Speaking in support of the proposition, the Secretary of State for External Affairs had remarked on October 18 that "the limited test ban (just concluded)



*The Honourable Paul Martin, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, delivers a statement before the First Committee of the UN General Assembly during the debate on the cessation of nuclear-weapons tests.*